

Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2014

Members in Attendance: Heidi Hample, Rachel Buonopane, Maureen St. Hilaire, Michael Rademacher, John Thompson

Members Absent: Kerrie Fallon, Molly Flueckiger, Susan James

Others Present: Jack Jones/ADA Coordinator, Beverly Bevilacqua (resident, volunteer at Arlington Senior Center), Christine Bongiorno

Meeting began at 4:00 pm

Welcome and Introductions

1. Approve minutes from 8.20.14 and 9.17.14

- August meeting minutes approved
- September meeting minutes to be approved as amended

2. Christine Bongiorno- open meeting law presentation

- Here to discuss open meeting law and roles and responsibilities of member
- State Law- enforced through State Attorney Office
- Strict set of guidelines- post agendas, deliberation need to happen at a meeting where there is a quorum
- Email correspondence regarding deliberation on a topic is not allowed
- Subcommittees can meet but cannot make formal decision unless it is considered a public meeting
- Bylaws passed out and reviewed with group present briefly
- Potential for outside consultant to the group: 3 potentials regarding price and services offered were verbally presented to group
- One group has already worked with a group in town, one was recommended by Rachel and one was a contact of Christine's
- Town Manager is committed to helping with finding funds
- What are the parameters for us to evaluate which is most appropriate?
- Team building as well as development of strategic plan
- Mike requesting brief written description of consultants so that we can make a decision to move forward with one or not

3. Call for nominations- explain 3 positions

- Positions described to group
- Molly, Heidi and Rachel are not interested in running for positions again

- Maureen nominated as chair(unopposed)- 5 members present and voted Maureen in
 - Kerrie nominated as vice-chair(unopposed)- 5 members present and voted Kerrie in
 - No current nominations for secretary
- 4. If quorum, discuss suggested bylaw change: “if no one else is nominated, an individual may serve another term”**
- No reason to submit this as a change as Rachel does not want to continue in position as secretary
- 5. If quorum, VOTE**
- As above (#4)
- 6. Rachel- Vision 20/20 Survey**
- Discussed questions that the vision 20/20 group had for our 4 suggested questions
 - Group discussed and further defined the questions to be submitted
- 7. Museum of Science Arlington Day- publicity- are we ready?**
- Potentially coordinate group outing for people with disabilities to the Museum of Science
 - Up to 70 passes could be given out
 - Are we ready? Who would we invite? How would we get there? Do we meet there, or offer transportation?
 - Advertisement for event: Advocate, schools, council on aging, recreation groups for people with disabilities
 - Initially had discussed coordinating in December, now pushing back to May or June
 - Will further discuss in January to formally plan
 - Include as part of 25th anniversary of signing of ADA regulations
 - Maria Cabrerra is community outreach coordinator at Museum of Science
- 8. (a) Work has started on the Broadway Plaza reconstruction. Was the Commission consulted?**
- Current work is NOT the reconstruction that has been discussed in Town
 - Funding request last year to remove the steps up to a non-functioning fountain
 - Making just flat ground at this point
 - Considered a maintenance project
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- Mike has asked for funds regarding sidewalks and landscape between Mill St and Pond St. to survey what Town members want and hold meetings
 - If money approved it would be available July 2015 at the earliest to start this planning concept
 - Will work towards finding funds for the project once an idea is conceptualized
- (b) Arlington Access Newsletter**
- We have a large amount left to distribute

- To distribute at Town Hall, Visitor Information Booth, Robbins Library, Fox Branch Library, Lahey Arlington, Boys and Girls Club
- Members volunteering to take some brochures to pass out around Town

9. Announcement: Oct 16, Thursday, 7-9 pm, Senior Center, Mural Room, Public Meeting, Parks and Recreation ADA Study Presentation

- Meeting to present findings
- Report is 300 pages long and has been distributed electronically
- Commission members can request a hard copy of the report from Jack
- Mike reports that suggestions in the report do cross over to DPW to allow for access to the parks, will be further discussed.

10. October 17, 7:30-9:15 @ Senior Center (True Story Theater performance)

- All invited to attend

11. ADA coordinator's report

- Resident concerned about service dogs not being welcomed properly into businesses in town
- Jack to follow up with Ted Fields to outreach to businesses
- John suggested that we also speak with Fred Ryan, Chief of Police, to discuss back up for residents if they were to call the police with a complaint
- Resident concerned that bricks were being used to replace bricks in front of Broadway Plaza. As reported in #8, this is maintenance. Where it is a not a new surface, it is most appropriate to fill with similar surface to current area surface. When the entire area is reconstructed, Town will work to come into compliance.

12. Follow up: Library, resident riding bicycle there

- Trying to best determine the medical need of the bike
- Fire department consulted and found that it may not be an issue as long a clear path of travel is available
- Discussion is ongoing

13. Snow Removal Project Discussion

- Coming up with official announcement to community to remind residents of responsibilities on sidewalks and corners
- Maureen has info that we can review at next meeting

14. Other Business

- Follow up regarding reward to ourselves after town day
- *Pizza at the next meeting, Jack and Mike to pick up*
- Follow up regarding open position on commission
- Apparently position was posted, though members of commission were not aware
- Town has made a decision about a possible new commission member, Barbara Cutler (former member), to join without speaking to members of the commission and/or a volunteer that has expressed repeated interest in becoming a member
- Interview process was reportedly waived
- Job fair took place today, Heidi and a few other volunteers were present to help with greeting
- Water provided for the event by commission
- Stephen Gilligan, Town Treasurer, provided parking passes to employers to park their cars for extended period
- Gregg Ames will update Jack on how the event went
- Mike discussing another project at Arlington Center Mass Ave/Pleasant St
- Bike path will turn to end at corner as opposed to at Route 60
- New light to go across from Swan Place so bicyclist can get across safely

Handouts Issued to Commission Members during Meeting

Meeting Agenda

Meeting Minutes August September

Diversity Career Fair Announcement

ADA coordinators report

Commission Bylaws

Article regarding service animals submitted by resident

Invite to Minuteman Senior Services invite to gathering to commission members in Massachusetts

Meeting adjourned 6:00pm

Next Meeting set November 19, 2014